

THE
CONGRESS
AT THE
H A G U E.

L I C E N S ' D ,
May 8. 1691. J. FRASER.

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*G. B. Smith
Fraser*

To the Right Noble

THE

MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN,

EARL OF DANBY, &c.

LORD PRESIDENT of Their Ma-
jesties Most Honourable Privy Coun-
cil, and Knight of the Most Noble
ORDER of the GARTER.

My LORD,

I Humbly entreat your LORDSHIP to
throw an eye upon these few Papers
I have written about the Congress
at the Hague, upon the eager sollici-
tations of some worthy persons of my
acquaintance, who being curious to
know

Epistle Dedicatory.

know what had past there; were not perhaps left at liberty to consider how incapable I was either to refuse, or to satisfy them, especially in so nice a Language as the English; for I am afraid that by some uneasy Words, and by some struggling Expressions, it will be easily discovered that I am a Stranger to that Language, and consequently I run the hazard to be thought a Stranger to the Subject too. In fine, I am between fear and hopes; and I humbly beseech your LORDSHIP to redeem me from that pain. If your LORDSHIP can persuade your self to begin to read this little Book, and if you do not throw it away before you have finish't it, that will be an infallible sign of my success; and your bare indifference will do me more Honour, than the applauding-Praises of an infinite number of others. And in this case, I
hum-

Epistle Dedicatory.

humbly desire your LORDSHIP to present it to Her Majesty; to tell Her that the Author does humbly dedicate it to Her, and that if he has not done it in the usual manner, it is only because he endeavoured well to manage the profound Respect and Veneration he has for Her Majesty's Sacred Name. I do not question but Her Majesty will peruse it, seeing it is recommended by so Great a hand; and I shall think my self extream happy to have once in my Life, for one half hour, entertained the most Pious, most Vertuous, and most Beautiful Queen in the World. It is, I confess, a very great presumption in a Foreigner to desire so signal a Favour from the chief Minister of State; but that very Name of Foreigner seems to soften the boldness, and carries with it an Argument so much received by all Civilized Nations,

Epistle Dedicatory.

Nations, that pleads for your generous Patronage. The mighty weight of the publick Affairs, lies indeed very heavy upon you ; yet, by reason of your LORDSHIP's vast Capacity and Courage, you seem still to be able to bear a greater one ; you have still some Moments to distribute amongst your Friends and Clients ; and I humbly beseech your LORDSHIP to be pleased to receive me amongst the Number of the last. I shall be very careful not to render my self unworthy of that Name ; and I intend to make it my business, to convince your LORDSHIP, by all my Thoughts and Actions, That there is no body in the world with more respect and submission, than ,

My LORD,

Your Lordship's most Humble,
and most Obedient Servant,

C. W.

London,
May 5.
1691.

THE
CONGRESS
AT THE
HAGUE.

Being desirous to see the famous Congress at the *Hague*, where the King, to the immortal Glory of the *English* Nation, was to be met by most Princes of the *German* Empire, and amongst them, by those that make the greatest figure in it; where the ablest and most refin'd Ministers of *Europe*, in the illustrious sight of so many Potentates, were to signalize their Eloquence, Experience, Counsels, Skill in Politicks, Faith, Zeal, and what else could make them recommendable to the Wise and Most Discerning of Princes in the Universe: Being, I say, impatient to see this August Assembly, I parted from *London*, *January*

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the 30th. 1697. and arriv'd at *Harwich* the 31st at Night. It was certainly in the worst Season for Travellers, and in the worst Weather of that Season. The Rain that had lasted several days, and did still continue, accompanied by a very high North-east Wind, gave us but a very melancholy prospect of our Voyage.

February the 1st, Wind and Weather were still the same; and at a time we entertain'd our selves with the little success we were like to meet with in our little Voyage, the Captain of the *Pacquet-Boat*, call'd the *Vine*, came to tell us, that he would set Sail in the Afternoon; and that whoever had a mind to go along with him, must be ready at that time. He told us, That a Messenger was arriv'd from Her Majesty, with the Particulars of my Lord *Preston's* and his Complices Trial; and I fancy, with somewhat of greater consequence, and that required a greater expedition; That he had express Orders to depart immediately; and though it was a hazardous enterprize to put to Sea at a time, when those that were upon it would certainly wish themselves, tho with the loss of all that was less dear to them than their Lives, to be a Shore; yet he could not but be obedient.

Prince

Prince *Charles Rudolphe* of *Wirtemberg*, Brother to that brave General that Commands the Auxiliary Troops of *Denmark* in *Ireland*, was then at *Harwich*, waiting for the first opportunity to go over into *Holland*. This Prince, tho in the prime of his Age, being but Twenty three years old, had already given great proofs of his Courage and Conduct, during three Campaigns in *Morea*, being Collonel of one of the Regiments the Prince Regent of *Wirtemberg*, his Cousin, had sent to the assistance of the Republick of *Venice*; but being informed (as the News of great and Noble Enterprises is soon spread over the World,) That the King was going himself to Head his Army in *Ireland*, he immediately resolv'd to leave those ungrateful Fields, dyed with the Blood of so many brave *Germans*, that have lost, and still lose their Lives, worth a better fate, in the ignoble Service, and for the advancement of the Empire of some few grave and easie Politicians, and to signalize his early and better bestowed Valour, in the fight of the bravest of Generals, and best of Monarchs. Much time was required to pass over the wide *Mediterranean*; and though there was but too little given to the tender embraces of the Princess his Mother; yet *Germany*, *Holland*, the *Channel*, *England*, and the *Irish Sea* were

not so soon cross'd, but the impatient Prince hearing, that two obscure names, the *Boyne* and *Limmerick* were Nobilitated, by the Intrepidity, Skill, Travels, and Conduct of their Royal Sire, he applauded the King's, and grieved at his own destiny. The Season was spent, and no hopes left for an opportunity to exercise his Courage this year, when upon a sudden, the Earl of *Marlborough* was Commanded by the King to Embarque, with a considerable Body of Men. Every body knows the success of this enterprise, and how soon this fortunate General rendred himself Master of *Cork* and *Kingsale*, and all this in so critical a time, that in the History of the King's Campaign in *Ireland* that year, the Expedition of my Lord *Malborough* will certainly serve for a glorious Postscript. There were many illustrious Volunteers that served in this Expedition; brave *Grafton* fell, and if the Prince, who in the same quality served in the Troops Commanded by his Brother, did escape the danger, he may thank his kinder Destiny for it. He did all that could be expected from one, that neglecting the advantages he enjoys by an Honour derived from his Ancestors, desires to render himself Illustrious by his own Merits. He was constantly in the Trenches; no Assault given, but he was amongst the most advanc'd; and
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He made Prisoner with his own Hands the late Governor of *Kingsale's* Brother, who offering a considerable Sum for his Ransom, he gave him to one of the Commanding Officers, reserving only for himself the Honour and Consciousness of that Action. He was now come from *Ireland*, to wait on His Majesty at the *Hague*; and I having had the Honour to be known by him some years ago at *Paris*, I waited on him, to hear if he was resolved to part; he with a smiling Countenance, despising the Danger, told me, That he would make use of the first opportunity to be as soon in *Holland* as was possible; That he had already sent his Baggage on Board the *Pacquet-boat*; and that he would immediately follow: I, thinking by my self, *Cæsarem Vebet*, without any more ado resolved to follow him.

Most of the Passengers stay'd behind, and wise they were; for having scarce made four Miles in five hours time, and suffered all the torments an excessive Cold, a terrible Storm, and an enraged Sea, can cause men to suffer, we were forced to return into the Harbour, where we lay till *February* the third.

We had that day Full Moon ; - and by its influence Mariners commonly expect some change of Weather. The Sun rose indeed very bright , the Sea was less rough ; but the Wind was still contrary : We set Sail however , in hopes to get over with the Tide ; which we did in three days time. We had no sooner lost the sight of the *British* Coast , but we espied a *French* Privateer , that was making up towards us ; I could not find that any body in our Boat was in the least concern'd at it : The Cannons were immediately charged with Bullets , Arms distributed , and all things made ready for a Fight ; but the Monsieur being come near enough to distinguish the Pacquet-boat , away he went , without leaving us the least sign of his good breeding.

There are but Three Pacquet-Boats that are employed to entertain a correspondency with the Continent ; they are all extraordinary Sailers , and their Equipage , in reference to their bigness , is very considerable. Ours was mounted by Sixteen pieces of Cannon , and Forty Mariners ; and though Their Majesties pay for Fifty , yet some invincible accident or other will happen , that excuses some from doing their Duty ;

Duty; and the want of half-a-score does not break the square.

The Captain of our *Vine* had indeed no outward appearance of that current name, that by a meaner Courtesy of the *English*, for want of better acquaintance, is thrown away upon every Red-Coat, though never so scandalous; his look (with reverence to his Sword be it said) was not much bigger than that of a lusty Countrey Farmer; but in times of Danger, that's to say of Blows, he had, and did still discover so jolly an ignorance of the Peril, and so hearty a negligence of his Ease, that we could not but admire the simplicity of his Courage. The *French King* was some months ago at a great loss to get intelligence of our designs. *William* the third, according to his own opinion, was, *le meilleur homme de Cabinet*, That's to say, a Prince that knows how to chuse such Ministers, that besides their unquestioned experience in State Affairs, have the *Pistole-proof* Talent of Keeping Counsel. Some little remains of the late-coyned Plate of his Kingdom, were promis'd to such Privateers as would attempt to render themselves Masters of one of our Pacquet-Boats, and consequently of one of our Mails.

Three of the boldest of them, allured by the gain, offered their Service: They had the good luck to attack our Captain, who considering the odds, immediately threw the Mail overboard, and defended himself afterwards with so much Vigour and Conduct, that with the loss of one Man only, and one Wounded on his side, he Killed numbers of the Enemy; who valuing themselves upon having escap'd so unciviliz'd an Antagonist, brought the *French King* no other News, but what was writ in Bloody Characters, upon their own harass'd Carcasses.

The 5th, We came within the sight of the Coasts of *Zealand*, and towards Night to an Anchor. The 6th. we Weighed Anchor about Two a Clock in the morning, advancing by favour of the Moon and the Tide: Being awakened by the Noise of our Crew, I went upon the Deck, and looking round about me, I fancied we were near the Coasts of *Greenland* or *Nova-Zembla*. I did not see but swimming Mountains of Ice, striking by intervals, with such violence against our Boat, that some weaker Brothers of our Company were not a little apprehensive of a far greater Night than that which equally divides the year in those unfortunate Climates. The Captain ordered

ordered several Guns to be discharged, to inform the Inhabitants of *Helvestuys* of our Danger; and a little time after we spy'd a Sail, that coming to our assistance, took us on her Board, and brought us safely into the Harbour.

The Prince of *Wirtemberg*, my Lord *John Hamilton*, the Young Marquess *de la Barre*, and I, with some other Gentlemen, went to the next Inn, where we found some little Refreshments the Countrey could afford; and how little soever the reputation of a Turf-Fire in *England* be, yet I am sure we found it very comfortable. From *Helvestuys* we went to the *Brill*, from thence to *Masdandslays*, being about three hours a crossing the *Maese*, by reason of the Ice that was floating upon it, and through which we were forc'd to make our way; and towards Night we arrived at *Rotterdam*.

Walking through one of the finest Streets of that City, I saw some little Remains of a House belonging to the *Heer Nifelt*, the chief Magistrate of that Place, that was some time ago raz'd to the Ground by the Multitude upon this occasion. One being made Ensign of the Militia of the City, was accompanied by some of his Friends, carrying some Galons of Rhinish to the Guard-House, in order to treat the rest of the Officers according to the Custom
of

of that Place. Some Officers of the Custom-House meeting them in the Street, offered to seize the Wine, under pretence that they had not paid the Excise ; and tho they were told that it was upon an occasion that excus'd them from paying it, yet a quarrel arose, in which one of the Officers of the Customs lost his Life : They did not fail to secure one of the Company ; and though the Crime could not be positively fasten'd on him, yet the *Scout* (which is the Name of the Chief Magistrate) sentenc'd him to have his Head cut off, which was done accordingly. The man had a good Reputation amongst all his Neighbours, and died with a masculine Constancy, temper'd by a Christian Humility : He told the People, that tho no man could positively say he had committed the Crime for which he suffer'd, yet he himself could not say neither, that he had not done it : He prayed fervently, and then submitted to the Stroke, that depriving him of his Life, gave birth to the most dangerous Monster in a Body Politick. It was reported, That the *Scout* had a pique against this man, for having once hindered the advancement of some Affairs, that he thought might have turn'd to his advantage : Some pretended to have heard him say, That if ever he had the good luck to fall into his clutches, he would remember him for his Kindness ; which being spread all the Town over, made some

some sad impressions upon the Spirits of the People; preparing the most forward of them for an Insurrection: Numbers of them were seen walking together in the Streets, carrying some mischievous marks of indignation in their countenances; all of them speaking, and none hearing; when upon a sudden one of the Soldiers of the Militia (a conscientious Rebel) came to tell them, That he himself had had the misfortune to kill the Officer of the Customs, shewing the bloody Sword with which he had perpetrated the Crime, and that the other was fallen an innocent Victim to the revengeful Scout; That he was sorry—but they would hear no more; they got Arms, and away they marched to the Scout's House, and by going, their strength did increase. It was observ'd that the Women were the most forward, beating some rusty Kettles for want of Drums, and by that homely Noise encouraged the weaker Men to do Mischief: In short, the House was pulled down in a moment, and the Scout and his Son did narrowly escape the fury of the Mobb, by changing their Clothes with two Soldiers of Baron *Fricksem's* Regiment, that by the order of the States was advanced to appease the Tumult. To do the Scout justice, he has the Reputation amongst sober Men, of being a Person of sound Principles, a Zealous Patriot, and consequently a cheerful

pro-

Promoter of his Majesty's Interest, and they look upon this Accident as an unhappy Consequence of his too strict adherency in this Point to the Laws of the Land.

From *Rotterdam* I went to *Delft*, and from thence to the *Hague*, where I arrived *February* the 7th at Night.

The King had made his public^{at} Entrance here *February* the 5th. that's to say, two days before our arrival. I shall not trouble my self to copy out of the *Gazette* a relation of that Ceremony, that had nothing very extraordinary in it, but the joyful acclamations of the People. All the World knows how natural an aversion his Majesty has for that vain Ostentation, that is so much affected elsewhere; how much he has declined it upon all occasions; and that with *Cato*, that noble *Stoick*, he had rather future Ages should ask, Why he had none? than, Why others had some Statues erected them? In doing great Actions, and exposing his Royal Person again and again for the Safety of his Subjects, He calmly follows the genuine Dictates of that generous Mind, that desires no other Reward, but what is stamp'd upon each glorious Enterprize; nor any other Monuments, than those are daily rais'd Him in the hearts of His People;

too

too sincere, and too natural, to be imitated by an *Italian Architect*. And it was to satistie those that flock'd to the *Hague* from all the Provinces to see Him, that His Majesty after a sudden arrival at the *Hague*, the same day he was come ashore, was at last prevailed with to go to dine at a House call'd *Sorgflie*, a Mile from the *Hague*, belonging to My Lord *Portland*, and at his return to his Palace, to pass through the Triumphal Arches the States had erected Him in several places.

The Structure of them is indeed noble and magnificent, and several of the Inscriptions answerable to the Dignity of the Subject; but whereas they are very numerous, I had neither leisure nor humour enough to copy them: I shall only give you a short description of one of the Arches that stands nearest to the Court, by which you may guess at the rest.

This Arch is builded according to the *Italian Architecture*, in a Dorick Order. It has three Portals, the middle of which is higher than the Body of the Structure it self: It is adorned on both sides with sixteen Columns, standing upon large Basements, that are separated from the main Building, each Basement supporting two of the said Columns. The middle Portal has a very large Cupulo, and
upon

upon it stands a Pedestal, upon which the King is represented on Horseback to the life, Man and Horse very richly gilded. At each side of the Pedestal there are couching two Slaves in a Brass Collar, turning their Backs towards it; and the main Body is so artificially painted, that it appears to be made out of Stone: In each Field between the Columns there are in Black and White represented most of His Majesty's Glorious Actions: Over the Cornish is raised a Balluster of the same Order, with sixteen Pedestals directly above the Columns, supporting Statues that represent to the life promiscuously Men and Women, and round the Cupulo are writ these following Words.

PIO. FELICI. INCLYTO. GUILIELMO. TERTIO. TRIUMPHANTI. PATRIÆ. PATRI. GUBERNATORI. P. C. J. P. RESTAURATORI. BELGII. FOEDERATI. LIBERATORI. ANGLIÆ SERVATORI. SCOTIÆ. PACIFICATORI. HIBERNIÆ. REDUCL

His Majesty had before, and did after his publick Entrance constantly assist the respective Assemblies of the States-General; the States of *Holland*, and the Council of the State, employing all his Minutes to the dispatch of such Affairs, as were most conducing to the Safety and Prosperity of the Commonwealth in particular, and in general to the advancement of the Common Cause.

In a Speech the King made at his first appearance at the Assembly of the States-General, he told them, That 'when he saw them
'last, he had inform'd them, that he was resolv'd to cross the Seas to rescue three Kingdoms from Popery and Slavery; That God
'Almighty had blest his righteous Undertakings in so signal a manner, that his Success
'had been beyond his Expectations, nay, and beyond his Wishes too. That *England* and
'*Scotland* had offered Him their Imperial Crowns, which he had accepted, not, as he
'call'd God to witness, to satisfy his Ambition, but to be in a better capacity to maintain the
'Protestant Religion, and a lasting Peace and Tranquility in these Kingdoms, and to assist
'his Confederates, and especially this State, against the powerful incroachments of *France*.
'That he was now come accordingly into these
'Provinces, not only to Concert with his Allies,
'the

' the Measures that were to be taken the next
 ' Campaign, but to exercise also with all imagi-
 ' nable application the Charge of Captain-Gener-
 ' al of the United Provinces. That he was
 ' in hopes God Almighty would make use of
 ' him as an Instrument to confound the malici-
 ' ous and dangerous Designs of the Enemy, to
 ' turn off the Danger from their Heads, and to
 ' reestablish an Universal and lasting Peace in
 ' *Europe*. That He should die with the grea-
 ' test satisfaction in the World, if he could
 ' compass these Designs. He concluded his
 ' Speech with some tender Assurances of his un-
 ' alterable Love to the State, and it was answer-
 ' ed accordingly.

The first thing the King did, was the regulat-
 ing the *Dutch-Fleet*, declaring, that his In-
 tention was, it should be commanded by Ad-
 miral *Tromp*. It is not easily exprest how
 much his Royal Pleasure was applauded by the
 States, and what universal Rejoicings it cau-
 sed amongst all sorts of people.

Lieutenant Admiral-General *Tromp*, Son to
 that famous Hero, that from a simple Mariner
 rais'd himself to the next to the chiefest Com-
 mand in the State, is a Man of a full Stature;
 an ordinary look, and that wearing an old
 fashion'd Black Coat, an ill ty'd Cravat, and
 his

his own weather-beaten Hair, makes at the best no better Figure, than that of an ordinary Burgher of *Amsterdam*; but by his great and numerous Exploits, he has discovered that which is hidden in his Physiognomy, that's to say, a greatness of Soul, a boldness of Spirit, and so wise a Conduct in his most perillous Enterprises, that considering his long Experience, he is now look'd upon as one of the greatest Sea-men in the World. To restore a brave, but unfortunate Prince to his lost Kingdom, or to save it when he stands upon the fatal Brink of loosing it, are Blessings, few of the greatest Generals of all Ages can boast of; and if Heaven ever before imploy'd the hand of a particular Man about so great a Work, it was after it had anxiously instructed his Valour, variously expos'd his Life, and narrowly inquired into his Success in a thousand lesser Actions, and then it was the immortal Reward of an equally Great, Successful and Aged General; but bold *Tromp* reapt that Glorious Title of a Royal Restorer from one of his first Warlike Essays, and in the Flower of his Age. *Frederick* the Third, King of

C Denmark

Denmark, had in spite of his Virtue and Valour, lost all the strong Places of his Kingdom; *Coppenhaguen* the Capital City, and sole Remainder of that unfortunate Countrey, was besieged by Sea and Land by the *Swedes*, and though the Citizens behav'd themselves to a Miracle, animated by the presence of their Royal Sire, and the whole Royal Family, yet they must have given way at last to a valorous and successful Enemy. 'Tis said, That the *Swedes*, sure of the prize, had already divided amongst them the Quarters of that City, and that some ungenerous Counsellors of the Enemy did design the Royal Progeny for a Victim to secure the Conquest; when upon a sudden a numerous Fleet of the States, Commanded by *Tromp*, appeared in the *Sound*. It was not known upon what Design he came, for the States were then in Alliance with neither of the Parties, and both equally fear'd and hop'd for his Assistance, but *Tromp* quickly decided the matter; for since it is the Interest of all *Europe*, and in particular of the States-General, to Ballance an equal Power between the two *Northern* Crowns, he fell upon the Superior Party, destroy'd their Fleet, reliev'd

liev'd the City, and by that Strenuous
 Action caused that sudden and wonderful
 Revolution, that did not only render the
 King once again Master of his Kingdom,
 but Absolute Master too. The King to show
 his Royal Gratitude, made him a Count
 of his Kingdom, and besides honoured him
 with the Noble Order of the *Elephant*.
 King *Charles* the Second made him Knight
 and Baronet of the Kingdom of *England*,
 but these are Titles that signifie but lit-
 tle with the *Dutch* Seamen; they know
 him to be Just and Brave, they Love him
 as their Father, and cannot forget, nor
 abide to call him by any other Name, than
 by that plain familiar and *Dutch* one, of
Cornelis van Tromp. He has since that time
 signalized himself in several Sea-fights with
 the *English*. They are too well known,
 and their Consequences have been too fa-
 tal to both Parties, to need to be men-
 tioned here. The *English* have experienced
 his Valour, and he has theirs, and this mu-
 tual consciousness of each others Bravery,
 (how different soever their manners
 are) together with the urgent necessity
 of their Affairs, as it cannot but by join-
 ing their Fleets, make a Glorious Confe-
 deracy of their Hearts, so we have all

reason to expect such Effects from it, as will be answerable to the greatness of the Design.

Some few days after His Majesty had nominated Admiral *Tromp* to Command the *Dutch* Fleet, it was confidently reported at the *Hague* that *Tromp* was poyson'd; I think it was the effect of Fear of some that did not love to see certain Persons there. He fell suddenly Sick indeed, but whatever the cause of it was, he did as soon recover; and at a time the Report did still continue, accompanied as 'tis usual by some particular Circumstances, I saw the Admiral in good Health in the King's Anti-Chamber, where he staid above an hour; he is not much above Two and fifty years old, and is said to be very Vigorous, principally when he is in his own Element; yet he looks very decrepit. It seems great and constant Fatigues at Sea, as they take away that brisk and jolly Appearance of Youth in the Face, so they strengthen the Body, and inure it to a long Life. And I am told, That the Famous *French* Protestant Admiral *Du Quesne* look'd as old Thirty years before, as he did when he died.

While

Whilst His Majesty with an unfatigable Care advanced the Interest of the States, and their Confederates, there past scarce one day, but some Prince or other came to the *Hague*. Many of them keep Great and Splendid Courts in *Germany*; and the Two Electors of *Bavaria* and *Brandenbourg*, make a Figure in the Empire not inferior to that of Great Monarchs. They all stand very much upon their Prerogatives, and to speak the truth, there is in no Country more time spent in observing the superfluous Nicety of Ceremonies, than in *Germany*; but it seems *William* the Third had set them a Pattern. They came to Consult, to Act, and not to show their Grandeur. No publick Entrances were made, they all arrived *incognito*, and to prevent that ceremonious Respect that must needs have been paid to their Illustrious Characters; the Elector of *Bavaria* (as it was said) did assume the Name of Count of *Thungen*; the Elector of *Brandenbourg*, that of Count of *Ravensberg*, and they were imitated by the rest of the Princes. And since very few, that were at the *Hague*, had either that Leisure or Advantage, that I had of being well inform'd of the exact
Number

Number and Name of the Princes. I have thought fit to communicate to you this following List.

Maximilian, Elector of *Bavaria*.

Frederick, Elector of *Brandenbourg*.

George William, Duke of *Lunembourg-Zel*.

Anthony Ulric, Duke of *Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel*.

Charles, Landgrave of *Hessen-Cassel*.

Philip, Prince-Palatine of *Sultzbach*.

John George, Prince of *Saxe-Eysenach*.

Christian Lewis, Prince of *Brandenbourg*.

Ernest Lewis, Landgrave of *Hessen* ;
Prince of *Hirschfeld*, Count of *Catzen-Elnbogen*, *Dietz*, &c.

The Prince of *Darmstadt* his Brother.

Frideric Charles, Duke Administrator of
Wirtemberg, and Teck Count of *Montpelgard*, &c. General of the Emperor's Horse.
Uncle to the Prince Regent of *Wirtemberg*.

John Frideric, Prince of *Wirtemberg* his Brother.

Charles Rudolph, Prince of *Wirtemberg-Newstadt*.

Christian

Christian Albret, Prince of Anspach.

George Frideric, Prince of Anspach.

The Landgrave of Hombourg.

The Prince of Nassau-Idstein.

The Prince of Nassau-Dillembourg.

Lewis Frideric, Duke of Holstein-Beck.

Charles William of Anhalt-Zerbst.

Friderick Casimir, Duke of Courland.

Ferdinand, Prince of Courland.

The Prince of Holstein.

The Prince-Palatine of Birkenfeld.

The Prince of Waldeck.

The Prince of Nassau-Sarbruck.

The Prince his Son.

Henry Casimir, Prince of Nassau, Governor of Friseland.

The Marquis of Gastanaga, Governor of the Spanish-Netherlands.

Many of these Princes had no other Reason for their coming, than to wait on the King, and to pay His Majesty that Respect which is due to the Hero of our Age, and the Great Protector of the Protestant Reli-

Sion; but others that have a greater Power, came to Concert with His Majesty the Measures of the next Campaign, either to assist, or to be assisted, to increase His Majesty's Troops with theirs, or theirs with His Majesty's Forces, and the most considerable of these are.

The Elector of *Bavaria*.

The Elector of *Brandenbourg*.

The Duke of *Lunembourg-Zel*.

The Landgrave of *Hessen-Cassel*.

The Duke Administrator of *Wurtemberg*.

The Governor of *Friseland*, and the Governor of the *Spanish-Netherlands*.

February 3. Arrived at the *Hague*, *Frideric*, Marg-Grave of *Brandenbourg*, Arch-Chamberlain, and Elector of the Holy Roman Empire, Sovereign of the *Ducal Prussia*, Duke of *Magdebourg*, *Juliers*, *Cleve*, *Bergen*, *Pontmeryn*, of the *Cassubers* and *Vandals*, Duke of *Crossen* and *Jagerndorf* in *Silesia*, Burg-Grave of *Nuremberg*; Prince of *Halberstad*, *Minden*, *Camin* and *Rugen*; Count of the *Mark* and *Ravensberg*, &c. accompanied by two Princes of *Anspach*, and attended by a numerous and splendid Court, and several Foreign Ministers,

sters, and the same day his Electoral Highness waited on His Majesty. Certainly there can no stricter Alliance be made in the World then that has always been, and is now more solemnly renewed between these two Potentates; for instead of being of the nature of those, that alas! till now, have most commonly been made in *Europe*, by the Intervention of some hardy *French* Minister, who to make out the Name of *Plenipotentiary*, thought to have a full Power to Cheat with a Method, to Lye with an Emphasis, nay, to swear false for his Master's Interest; it is concluded by the Illustrious Principals themselves, without an authorized Spy, and grounded upon the same Interest, Religion, Parentage, Personal Affection, and what else is most sacred amongst Men; and as on one hand, the Confederacy of so great a Monarch cannot but be very Glorious to His Electoral Highness, so His Majesty on the other may reap great and considerable Benefits from it, for he is a powerful Prince, his Dominions are of a vast extent, His Nobility numerous, His Subjects warlike, and he entertains an Army near Three-score thousand Men, well Arm'd and better disciplined; most of them are the Veteran Remains of those Victorious Troops that served

served under the Banners of *Frederic William*, his Father, deservedly called the *Achilles* of *Germany*. As the Memory of that Great Prince will be Sacred for ever amongst all, that either have a Soul capable of being touched by the benign Influences of a just and solid Reign, that lasted near half an Age, or that are competent Judges of the true Character of a compleatly experienc'd and vigorous Warrior, which he maintained to the very last minute of his Glorious Life; so there is yet another Reason we are more particularly concern'd in, to Reverence and Bless his Name: I say, That great Respect, and that passionate Love this old Great Man always entertained for his Nephew, the Prince of *Orange*, His Present Majesty, in so eminent a manner, that to cross the Empire by tedious Journeys from one end to another, in order to have a frequent interview with the Prince, to joyn the Electoral with the *Orange-Banner*, and to plant their Princely Tents on the same Meadow, he reckon'd amongst the greatest Blessings of his Life. His now Electoral Highness his Son follows exactly as in this, so in every other Respect the Glorious Footsteps of his Father. He was Born *July 1. 1657.* he is a wise and politick Prince,

Prince, and tho he be but of a little Stature, not altogether answerable to the Greatness of his Soul, yet he has a brisk Look, and a martial Vivacity in his Face, that does become extreamly well the Conqueror of *Bonne*.

February 8. Arrived *Friderick Charles*, Duke Administrator of *Wirtemberg*, Uncle to *Eberhard Lewis*, Prince Regent of *Wirtemberg*, who being Born *September* the 18th. 1676. and is consequently still under Age; he and his Dominions are govern'd by his Uncle, according to the Tenor of the Imperial Laws during his Minority. *Stutgard* is the Residence of the Prince, and the Capital City of a plentiful Country. It is famous through all *Germany*, by reason of the well-provided University at *Tubingen*, and the Illustrious School there, which none but Princes and Noblemen are admitted to, renders it yet more conspicuous. 'Tis true, it has very much suffered in that fatal War that lasted Thirty years in *Germany*, and it has yet some fresher marks of Desolation, stamp'd upon its very Bowels by that Cruel and Common Enemy, who to this day Usurpes of the House of *Wirtemberg*, the whole County of *Mompelgard* with all its Dependencies;

-dencies ; yet by the wise and gentle Go-
 -vernment of its Illustrious Administrator ,
 the Prince Regent makes still a Figure suit-
 -able to the grandeur of his Name ; his
 Subjects are taught to live happy , and
 whilst some of his Troops are dispersed in
 the Service of those that carry the War
 into the very heart of the *Ottoman* Empire,
 he has still a reserve of a good Body of
 Men , either to increase the Confederate
 Army , or to be increas'd by his own Sub-
 -jects. There is no Countrey of that com-
 -pass of Ground , can be in so good a Po-
 -sture, except it be govern'd by an extraor-
 -dinary Prince ; and such is He we have
 seen and admired at the *Hague*. He was
 Born *January* the 24th. 1652. He is a Prince
 of an admirable Presence , a well-set Body,
 a graceful Gate , a majestick Deportment ,
 and a masculine Face, that would be les-
 -sen'd by being called Beautiful ; and as these
 are qualities that strike the hearts of his
 beholders with a Sacred Horror , so 'tis
 said , That by reason of his vast Under-
 -standing, his clear and sound Judgment ,
 together with a Noble eagerness to advance
 the Common Cause , he was one of the
 Princes , that had the greatest part in His
 Majesty's Favour and Esteem.

February

February the 16th, about Ten a Clock at Night, arriv'd *Maximilian Emanuel*, Duke of the Upper and Lower *Bavaria*, and the Upper *Palatinate*; Count *Palatin* on the *Rhine*; Arch-Sewer and Elector of the Holy Roman Empire; Landgrave of *Leuchtenberg*, I need not say upon what occasion the Electoral Dignity, that was torn from *Friederick V.* Elector *Palatine* and King of *Bohemia*, was bestowed upon the Illustrious House of *Bavaria*, since that unfortunate Prince did himself inform the *English* Nation of it; neither do I intend to enlarge upon the great Wealth and Power of that Ancient Family, since 'tis notorious, That the Elector of *Bavaria* alone, of all the Princes of the Empire, (I mean of those that are of a Religion required in an Emperor, by the fundamental Laws of the Empire) is in a condition to support, and consequently to dispute the House of *Austria*, the Imperial Crown; which is so well known by the *French* King, that some years ago he left no stone unturned (I had almost said no Plate unmelted) to gain his Electoral Highness over to his Interest. A Match was made between the *Dauphin* and his eldest Sister; and seeing that

that he was then very young, and that consequently, the Charms of the first Crown in *Christendom*, and the Name of an Emperor might possibly make a great impression on so tender an Age; He promised him to get him, by his Intrigues, to be chosen King of the *Romans*, in case he would espouse his Interest; That's in plain *English*, to help himself or his *Dauphin* to the thing he did promise Him as a reward of his assistance. Great numbers of *French* Ministers resorted dayly to *Munichen*, to observe, nay, to obsede the Prince. They entertained him with nothing but the Grandeur of their Master; They made a considerable figure themselves, and care was taken to intermingle their premeditated Discourses with some immoderate Praises of the surprising Beauty of the Princess of *Conty*; and I am credibly told, that some had, at last, the Front, to offer the Marriage of one of the King's Bastards to him that was design'd for a Daughter of an Emperor: But his Electoral Highness soon defeated their unreasonable hopes, and at a time the whole Empire was preparing to mourn the loss of so powerful a Prince; He upon a sudden turning the Scale, concluded a strict Alliance with the Emperor,

Married

Married the Arch-Dutchess of *Austria* his Daughter; and sending his numerous Troops to his assistance in *Hungary*, entred himself those memorable Fields, that have Crowned his Head with everlasting Lawrels. And it was this young *Hero*, that by taking *Belgrade* by Storm, one of the most important Fortresses in the World, gave us the fairest and solidest prospect of the intire downfall of that monstrous Empire, that till then had been the terror of all *Christendom*.

He was born in the year 1662. *June* the 11th, and though I am no Astrologer, yet I dare say it was under a very happy Constellation. Those that have had the Fortune to see him at the *Hague*, *English*, *Germans*, *French*, *Spaniards*, *Italians*, *Dutch*, *Swedes*, *Danes*, all did agree in the praise of this Prince, each of them seeming to observe in him what makes an accomplish'd man, to the particular notions and nicety of their own Countrey; in so much that he may be said to have been the *Titus Vespasian*, that's to say, the Darling of the *Hague*. To make a true Picture of this admirable Prince, and to express his Character in every particular, especially after what I have said,
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is too hard a task for such a Scribler as I am; for though we are all apt to Copy, yet we cannot Copy from the Life. 'Tis true, it is easily said, That this Prince is of a Middle-size, and such as may be call'd modestly, Tall; That his Limbs are strait, his Body slender and well-shap'd, his Shoulders large, his Face Oval, and every part and lineament of it happy; That his Looks are refined; and though he be of a smiling Countenance, yet that it is hard to distinguish, whether it be to applaud the exact comportment of some, or to despise the want of it in others; That he is Obliging to all the World; That his Conversation is Charming; in fine, that in all respects he is a very accomplish'd Prince; yet these are but general Notions, that will not satisfy those, that in this lovely Prince have observ'd somewhat peculiar to himself, that by some secret Charms gains him the hearts of all that approach him; and this I ingeniously confess is beyond my abilities to express. And it is this Prince, that though he be of a contrary Persuasion to that of His Majesty, yet has been one of the most forward to pay His Majesty his respects in so obliging and extraordinary a manner, as could hardly be expected either

ther from a Prince of his Rank , or be paid to any other than to the great Protector of the liberty of *Europe* ; and on the other hand , His Majesty has given him such unusual marks of his Esteem , Love and Friendship , given and received with so mutual a satisfaction , that never two Princes did either more sympathise , or had more reason to be satisfied with each other's interview.

February the 21st. arrived *Charles* Landgrave of *Hessen*, attended by the Count of *Lippe* , General of his Army , and Baron *Gortz* his Chief Minister , and several other Great Persons. He was Born in the year 1654. *August* the 3^d. He is a Prince of a fine Appearance , a mild Temper, his Government is gentle and easie, and he maintains that great Rank , and defends that Religion in the Empire , he has derived from his glorious Ancestors , with great success and Honour. His Great Grandfather *Philip* the first , and *John Frederick* Elector of *Saxony* , were the two first and chief supporters of the Protestant Religion, when it was in its infancy. They Rais'd and Headed themselves an Army against that Great and Victorious Emperor *Charles*

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the 5th, who seeing that all the Projects of *Rome*, to hinder the progress of a Doctrine that was Preach'd by *Luther*, with a success answerable to the Holy eagerness, and Apostolical boldness of that Great Man, were defeated, was going to imploy some stronger and surer Arguments; and a bloody Battel was fought at *Mulberg* near the *Elbe*. The *Roman* Eagles, *Roman* then indeed, accusom'd to look their Enemies out of Countenance, were then first taught to Tremble, and their Wings were clipt by these undaunted Warriors, that were resolv'd, either by overturning the Enemy, to acquire the great Name of *Conquerors*; or by signing the Truth of the Gospel with their Illustrious Blood, to deserve the more Glorious one of *Confessors*. And though the Battel was lost at last, and the Brave Elector of *Saxony* made Prisoner; yet the Emperor fearing that he should be overcome if he gain'd such another Victory; and on the other hand, considering, that neither he himself nor his Religion would be safe, as long as *Landgrave Philip* was unconquer'd, he made use at last of those inglorious Arts, that in one moment deprived the Prince of his Liberty, and the Emperor of
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that Honour, that till then had been sacred.

The Two Princes had been kept Five years in Prison; and the Protestant Religion was as many years nearer to its ruine, when brave *Maurice* of *Saxony*, having secretly rais'd an Army, surpriz'd the Emperor so suddenly at *Inspruck*, that though he himself did escape, yet the Captive Princes were set at Liberty, and *Ferdinand* the Emperor's Brother, and King of the *Romans*, made a Prisoner.

It was, indeed, a sudden Change, and that may well be rank'd amongst the brightest blessings of that Miraculous Providence, that till now, with so much sollicitude and care, has preserved and advanced the Protestant Religion. For from this time it began to rife apace, secured from the insults of its Captive Persecutor, who to gain his Liberty, readily Sign'd the famous Contract of *Passaw*, in which the Protestants had those mighty advantages granted them, they to this day enjoy in the Empire, being protected by so many great and powerful Princes, and amongst them

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by his Highness *Landgrave Charles*, upon whose occasion I have made this little excursion, not only to give you a hint of the Power of his House; but to shew also what great obligations all Protestants have to his Illustrious Family.

The last of all the Princes that arriv'd at the *Hague*, were their Highnesses the Dukes of *Lunenbourg-Zell*, and *Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel*. The first being hindred by some indisposition, did not arrive till *March* the first, and the second few days after it. *George William*, Duke of *Brunswick* and *Lunenbourg-Zell* was born in the Year 1624, *February* the 16th. and consequently has past the 67th Year of his Age. Those that are acquainted with the History of his glorious Life; that know, that he has several times baffled the Hectoring Monarch, routed his Armies, and that one of the greatest and most experienced *Marschals* of *France* was forc'd to follow his Triumphant Chariot, could not but infinitely be pleased with the sight of this venerable Old man; for it seems, that being inured to Fatigues, and used to conquer, he can now be overcome by nothing; nay, not by Age it self. His Body is still vigorous, his

Judgment

Judgment clear and sound, his Thoughts strong and unconfined; he apprehends still as quick as he speaks, and far from that sowness of Temper, that most commonly attends the Infirmities of Ancient Persons; he awakens and rejoices the hearts of all those that approach him, by a smiling Countenance, so unusual, yet so well becoming to a Great Age. His Court is certainly one of the most refined in *Germany*. His Ministers have acquir'd themselves that solid Reputation, but few in *Europe* can pretend to; and as they are capable to form and to concert, so he has a General, that at the head of a well-disciplin'd Army, can as bravely execute a great Design.

I cannot forbear to say, That of all the Respects paid to His Majesty, during his stay at the *Hague*, by so great and illustrious Princes, that of his Highness the Duke of *Zell*, must needs make the deepest and strongest Impressions on sober and thinking men. It will be said perhaps, That most of the rest being young, valiant, and ambitious of that Glory his Majesty has gain'd by so many great and hazardous Enterprizes; they were come to adorn the

Triumphs of the Hero of our Age, out of meer Galantry; but to see so Wise and Old a Prince that has outlived so many various Changes and Revolutions in *Europe*, and that consequently has got such an Experience, that far from being taken up by outward splendid Appearances, he is able to look into the very bottom of the Design, and to weigh each particular Circumstance of it; I say, to see such a Prince to undertake a tedious Journey in so rough a Season, in order to wait on, and to consult with his Majesty, and to pay him all imaginable respect in so extraordinary a manner, is a thing that will convince the most obstinate, that *William* the Third is universally look'd upon as the great and blessed Instrument in the hand of God to rescue *Europe* out of the insatiable hands of its cruel Oppressor; to maintain in, or to restore oppress'd Princes to their Rights, and to establish once more a Solid and Universal Peace.

And these were the chiefest Princes that did in Person concert with his Majesty the measures of the approaching Campaign. It was indeed a glorious Sight; and that
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could not but pierce the Souls of all those that have a true love and veneration for His Majesty, to see so many great Princes daily come to Court, to pass through the crouded Antichambers, and to go into that sacred Closet, where the Fate of *Europe* was to be decided. To write the History of what has past there, would be worthy of the most Eloquent and Refin'd Pens of our Age, and it would be a Piece that would without doubt surpass all that has been to this time writ in Politics; but it is as yet a Mystery, and I dare say, a Mystery to the very Ministers and Plenipotenciaries themselves, and that nothing but Time, and I hope the next Campaign, will unravel.

The most usual time to go to Court, was between Twelve and One a Clock in the Afternoon; and between Eight and Ten a Clock at Night; and they that walk't to Court a foot, at this time, as they were deafned by the continual Noise of an endless number of Coaches; so they were forced to be in a continual motion, and to turn from one side to another to give way to their numerous and clamorous Attendants. The most considerable Princes were

soon known, or else easily distinguished by their Livery and Attendance ; and when they were going or coming, notice was given to the *Swiss-Guards*, who immediately ranged thmselves in the Form of a Half-moon, having one of their Officers at their Head, and both Wings of the Door that gave entrance to the Anti-chamber were open'd, though this last Honour was also granted to Foreign Ministers, and other persons of Quality, especially if the *Swissers* had been well remembred. The Princes passing through the Anti-chambers, were attended by their Ministers, some walking before, and some behind them ; and at Night one of his Majesty's Gentlemen Uthrs carried the Candle before them. In His Majesty's Apartment the King and the Princes were all standing, and bare-headed. They called the King, *Your Majesty*, and the King call'd Them by that Name that is usually given by Kings to Sovereign Princes ; but His Highness, the Duke of Zell, had the Honour to be called Father by His Majesty.

There

There was none of the Princes, but that did immediately upon his Arrival at the *Hague*, wait on the King; the most considerable of them, had the Honour to have their Visits paid by His Majesty, and they received Him in the Street at, and conducted Him again to his Coach. At Court the King dined always alone; and when he treated some of the Princes, it was in one of his Palaces that are out of the *Hague*, and the most considerable of them had the honour to treat him also at their respective Palaces, where they did reside. At His Majesty's entrance into the Dining-Room, there was at first found but one Cover laid upon the Table for the King; a little while after it, there was another laid for the Prince, that did, or that was treated; and they being both set down, his Majesty gave a Wink to such Persons of Quality as were to have the honour to dine with Him.

When His Majesty drunk a Health, He named it softly to the Prince, who did the same to his Neighbours, and so it went round,

ound, and the Trumpets did only sound when the King and the Prince were drinking. One Sunday the King treated the most Considerable Princes at *Sorgfliet* (a House His Majesty has given to my Lord *Portland*) from thence they went to *Shevelinguen*; And being about Five a Clock in the Afternoon, return'd to the *Hague*, they went to the *Tour a la Mode*. The Elector of *Bavaria* was placed at His Majesty's left side; the Elector of *Brandenbourg* at the right, and the Landgrave of *Hessen*, at the left-side in the foremost part of the Coach, being followed by the Duke, Administrator of *Wirtemberg* in another. There was an infinite number of Coaches there, but they all stopp'd while His Majesty was making the Round. The *Tour à la Mode* at the *Hague*, is very near the Court, and certainly one of the best contrived in *Europe*. It goes first in a very long and streight Line, and at the end cuts to the right, into another, so that the Round makes a good *English* Mile. There are Rales made, and great Trees planted at an equal distance on both sides, the middle

dle being for persons that walk on Foot, and the Coaches go round about.

There were several Princes of the several Branches of the Great and Ancient House of *Nassau* at the *Hague*, who as they have distinguished themselves by their own Illustrious Merits, so they made a Figure suitable to that Great Name. Time is too short, and the design'd Compass of this Relation too narrow to speak of each of them in particular; yet I cannot forbear to say something of Prince *Henry Casimir* of *Nassau*, Hereditary Stadtholder of *Friseland* and *Groninguen*. He was Born in the Month of *January*, 1667. He is a Prince of an extraordinary little and slender Stature, but he has a vigorous Look; and he is so Valiant, and so Brave, that in all Respect he deserves to be called the *Alexander* of our Age. But since the Dignity of Governour of *Friseland* and *Groninguen*; in which he did succeed his Father when he was but Seven years old, has been made Hereditary to him, and that it was brought about by some very remarkable means; I think it will not be amiss to make a short Relation of it. *Henrica Emilia*, the Princess

cess Dowager his Mother, was still supporting with her Authority and Counsels, the tender Age of her Illustrious Infant, when one *Vander Vayen*, a Minister of great Learning, and a subtile Spirit, who had been exiled out of *Zeland*, his Native Country, for some Opinions of his, the Divines did not approve of, did arrive in *Friseland*; after he had for some years led a private and obscure Life at *Amsterdam*, and having obtained the Liberty to Preach at *Lewwarden* before the Court, his frequent and elaborate Sermons, which he pronounced with an audible Voice, and an humble Meen, accommodated to the genius of that Nation, had such secret Charms, and made so unaccountable Impressions upon the Spirits of his Auditors, that they were universally applauded by those that did, and that did not understand them. He employ'd his private Hours in teaching weak and ignorant Persons the Principles of the Christian Religion; and to those that were of a greater Capacity he explained the Mysteries of Philosophy and Divinity, always refusing to take Money for his pains, the most charming of Affronts in that Country. He had a peculiar Art to convince, to perswade, and to conquer the Hearts of
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those he conversed with, by some familiar Arguments ; and as his Conversation was charming and easy , so it was too nice , and too refined for one that pretended to know nothing but the *Greek* and the *Hebrew*.

The Form of Government in *Friseland* , is much like to what the Ancient *Romans* did observe in their conquered Provinces. The People is divided in Tribes , to each Tribe belongs a certain district of the Land , and they have each for their chief , one of the Nobles , that has the biggest Estate , and the greatest Interest in the Country. Upon some Emergency in the State , these Nobles have the Priviledge to collect the Votes of the People , and they know how to dispose them according to their Inclination and Interest. They have no Obligation to the Prince for their Charges , and consequently may , without any hazard cross his Design , in case they are not well affected. The only way to secure the Princes Interest from such troublesome Attempts , was to make the Stadtholdership Hereditary ; but since that could not be done without lessening the Authority of the Nobles , it was look'd upon as impracticable.

Vander

Vander Vayen was the first Man that dared to form the Design of it. He perswaded the Princess Dowager to Invest him with the Title of Honorary Counsellor of the Prince; and being authorized by that Character to advance his Master's Interest, he very easily gain'd the Divines, who making it their Business in their Sermons to make the People mindful of the Great and Signal Services the late Prince their Governour had rendred them, and that they lay under the strongest Obligation in the World to shew their Gratitude to the Prince his Son, worthy of so Great a Father, and worthy of their Love, by securing the Title of their Governour, to him and his Heirs for ever; they did first attentively hearken to, and in a little time as readily performed it.

From the Governour of *Friseland*, I come to the Governour of the *Spanish Netherlands*, and with him I intend to conclude the Article of the Princes. The Marquess of *Gastanaga*, Governour and Captain-General of the *Spanish Netherlands*, appeared at the *Hague* with a numerous Court, and in a very splendid Equipage. He is said to be a Man of Fortune, that has rais'd himself

to that high Station by his great Merits ; and the latter part of this common Report is abundantly justified by the great Esteem His Majesty had for his Person. To govern a Country that is at so great a distance from its Monarch , and so near to its Enemy , where most of the Inhabitants are so intuated by their Priests , that they had rather be destroyed by a Catholick Enemy , than to be saved by a Protestant Friend , is indeed a very hard task , and they that blame the Marquess's Conduct , are without doubt incapable to imitate it. As to his Personal Presence , he exceeds in that very thing *Lewis* the 14th ; and the esteem a great many have for the latter upon that Score , will infinitely be lessened by the sight of the Marquess of *Gastanaga*. He is indeed a graceful *Spaniard* , and if by the Governour's Appearance one might reasonably judge of the Constitution of the Country he Governs , it would be thought to be one of the finest and best proportioned in the World. He was very frequently at Court , and had several private Conferences with His Majesty , and his Electoral Highness of *Brandenburg* ; but by reason of the movements of the *French* Army in *Flanders* , he parted from the *Hague* before his

his Highness the Duke of Zell was arrived. Being upon his departure, a Gentleman in His Majesty's Name presented him with a Couple of Horses, which he received with great Joy and Respect; presenting the Gentleman with a Ring of great Value, he had drawn from his own Finger.

They that have not been at the *Hague*, and that know it to go under the Name of a Village, will hardly imagine how it could furnish Palaces enough for the Entertainment of so many Great Princes; but when they will be informed, that besides these Princes, there was a considerable number of Foreign Ministers, Envoys Extraordinary, and Plenipotentiaries, never before seen at one single Monarch's Court, who being the Representatives of their Princes, must needs make a Figure answerable to the Grandeur of that Name; They will easily fancy, that under the humble Name of a Village, *Hague* must needs have an Air of a Capital, nay of the once Capital City of the World.

The ordinary Ministers that reside at the *Hague*, are,

Count de *Berka*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Emperor.

The Chevalier *Crampricht*, The Emperor's Resident.

The Sieur *Lenth*, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of *Denmark*.

Count *Oxenstierne*, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of *Sueden*.

The Sieur *Moreau*, the King of *Poland's* Minister.

The Sieur *Meyers*, from *Mentz*.

The Sieur *Champagne*, from *Tryer*.

The Sieur *Solemacher*, from *Collogne*.

The Sieur *Prillmeyer* and Baron *Baumgarten*, from *Bavaria*.

The Sieur *Smettau* and the Sieur *Diest*, from *Brandenburgh*.

The Sieur *Zigel*, from the House of *Lunenburg*.

Baron *Gortz* and the Sieur *Kappelhere*, from *Hessen Cassel*.

The Sieur *Norf*, from the Bishop of *Munster*.

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But those that werè sent to His Majesty, either to Treat with, or to Congratulate Him upon His Success in *Ireland*; and His happy Arrival in *Holland*, were,

Count *Windishgratz*, Envoy Extrordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Emperor.

Don *Emanuel Colomma*, the Marquess of *Castel-Moncao*, and the Count of *Piremont*, Envoys and Plenipotentiaries from his Catholick Majesty.

Count of *Reventlaw*, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of *Denmark*.

The Sieur *Haxhausen*, Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from his Electoral Highness of *Saxony*.

The Sieur *Dalberg*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Elector of *Mentz*.

The Baron of *Leyen*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Elector of *Tryer*.

General Baron *Bernsaw*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Elector of *Cologne*.

The Sieur *Heterman*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Elector *Palatin*.

The Sieur *Klenk*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Duke of *Hanover*.

Baron *Grosbeck*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Duke of *Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel*.

The Count de *Prelat*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Duke of *Savoy*.

The Sieur *Gerke*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Duke of *Holftein-Gottorp*.

The Sieur *Mean*, Envoy Extraordinary from the Prince of *Liege*, &c.

There were besides several Deputies sent to His Majesty by some of the Imperial Cities.

To speak of each of them in particular, to enlarge upon their Characters, to relate the manner of their Reception, and to Copy their Speeches, numerous enough to form a Book of true State-Eloquence; altho it would be instructive to young Politicians, and besides be very acceptable to those that cannot hear enough of things relating so much to the King's Honour, and where their own tender Sentiments of all His Majesty's Designs, Reason and Duty inspires them with, are unanimously approv'd and confirm'd by the Mouths of so many eminent and able Ministers, yet it would be a Theme both of greater skill than I can pretend to, and of more time than I have allowed me.

The usual time of Audience for Foreign Ministers was between Nine and Ten a

Clock in the Morning, being conducted by Sir *Charles Cotterel*, Master of the Ceremonies; and they were received with more or less, according to the Quality of their Principals. The respective Envoys of the Emperor, of the Kings, Electors of the Empire, and of the Princes that have the Honour to be Related to his Majesty, were conducted to the publick Audience in Coaches with six, and the others in Coaches only with two Horses. I shall only give you one instance, by which you may judge of the rest.

Count *Windischgratz*, Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary from his Imperial Majesty, had his Audience *February* the 14th. He is one of the greatest and ablest Ministers of the Emperor's Court; for having been imployed all his life-time in Foreign Embassies, he has acquired himself that prodigious knowledge of the Affairs and Intrigues in *Europe*; that as it is answerable to his great Age, so there are none in the World that can pretend to surpass, and but few that can reasonably be compared with him.

It was observed by those that are nice in remarking each particular Circumstances of great Actions, that this venerable

ble Politician, for all his being used familiarly to entertain Kings and Emperors, when he came within the sight of His Majesty, discovered so noble a Concern, and so opportune an Awfulness in his Face, that as it was far from that signal Fear, that puts others out of Countenance, so it did infinitely express his Respect and Veneration for so Good and so great a Monarch.

As soon as His Majesty had notice given, him that the Imperial Envoy was arrived at Court, he came into the Anti-Chamber, and being Seated on His Royal Throne, his Grace the Duke of *Norfolk* conducted the Envoy to, and my Lord *Chamberlain* received him at the Door of the Anti-Chamber. Being entred, he made three deep Bows; the first, at his entrance; the second, after he was a little advanced; and the third, when he was come near to His Majesty; Who as often put His Hand to His Hat: and having humbly inclined his Body towards His Majesty, he, to the best of my remembrance, told him:

That he was sent by the Emperor his Master to Congratulate His Majesty on His happy Arrival in *Holland*; that he wanted words to express the great Esteem

his Imperial Majesty had for his Heroical Vertues ; that they were a Subject that entertained his Thoughts at his dearest hours ; and that in his Opinion, as well as of all those that had a true sense of Honour, he past for an incomparable Prince. That he was infinitely obliged to him for the insatiable Cares His Majesty had and did still take to advance that Just and Glorious Cause, in which he himself and all *Europe* was engaged : and though it was matter of great trouble to his Imperial Majesty to see him expose his sacred Life to so many Hazards and Dangers ; yet since it was evident that His Majesty was lookt upon by all the Confederates as the Sacred Anchor of their Cause, and the chief Supporter of their Interest, and that without His generous Influence, their best endeavours might possibly be rendered fruitless, he could not but intreat His Majesty to continue in His Noble Fervency to animate the Confederates, to second their Designs, and to teach them to overcome by His Glorious Victories.

The King having answered him in short, but solid terms, so much becoming Majesty, and so natural to Himself, the Envoy retired with the same respect, and ob-

observing the same Ceremonies as he did at his Entrance, not turning his Back till he came out of His Majesty's sight.

To give you a List of the Persons of Quality, Counts, Barons, Generals and others, remarkable by some singular Merits, that were at the *Hague*, is more than I, and I think any body else can do. It seem'd His Majesty's Anti-Chambers at the *Hague* were made the general Rendezvous of all Illustrious Persons in *Europe*. There was every Day seen some great Foreigner or other, who by a brisk and wandering Look, by short and frequent Embraces of some well-met Friends, discovered that he was but lately arrived; and though to ask his Neighbours who he was, seem'd to be an establish'd importunity, yet some great Prince or other passing through the Anti-Chamber, and the courteous Multitude striving to give way, he that was to give the Answer was lost in the Croud, and with him the hopes of ever making an exact Catalogue.

Amongst the Generals, there were remarkt two of the Imperial Army, General Count *Palfy*, and the Prince of *Commercy*. The latter is a Prince of the

House of *Lorrain*, and Nephew to that great Man that was once, alas, the Terror of the *Turks* and *French*; the Glory of the *Germans*, and the Hopes and Delight of all the Confederates. I think I have said enough to raise in your fancy a high Idea of his Character; and indeed it cannot be beyond his merits. He is in all respects worthy of that great Name, Young and Gallant, Generous and Brave, and his Soul inhabits a Body answerable to its greatness: He is very tall and yet well shap'd, he wears his own Hair, which as they are large enough to cover his Back and Shoulders, so they leave a full view of his graceful Face; His Steps are firm, and such as those of *Pompey* when he made the World tremble; His Look is strong, vigorous, and, indeed, somewhat like that of an Eagle; insomuch that they that have the fortune to fight under this brisk General, may in their Leader's Face discover the signs of the Imperial Banners.

As there were Great and Renowned Generals at the *Hague*, so there was a simple Soldier, a Soldier of Fortune amongst them, that was too remarkable to be past over in silence. I went once to dine at a
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French Ordinary, where I found a great Company, and amongst them a little Man in a Blue Coat, with a large Golden Lace, who at the Table was the only Man that entertained the Company ; He spoke of great Feats and Actions, of many Thousands defeated by some few Hundreds, of firing and killing, of advancing, and never retreating ; and one asking him some news of a certain Collonel of the *French* Army, *Him*, said he, *I have kill'd with my own Hands* ; and another, naming a *French* Lieutenant Colonel, *To him*, said he, *I gave Quarters*. I had strange Thoughts of this Man, and some of them, I confess, were not to his advantage : When the Company rising, and the little Stranger going out of the Room, I ask'd my Neighbour, who that Terrible Gentleman was, that had so little dined, and so much spoken ; and I was surprized to hear him say, that it was Monsieur *Arnaud*, the Famous Minister of the *Vaudois*.

This was enough to correct the ill Opinion I had of his Discourse, and to change it into a great eagerness to get into his Acquaintance ; and seeing him return into the Room, I insensibly engaged him to tell me some Particulars of the surprising Actions
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of the *Vaudois* under his Conduct, which he did then, as I thought, with great Reservedness and Modesty, I being now, perhaps, as much pre-possess'd in his Favour, as I was before against him. After all, he telling his Stories without a disguise, and without modestly passing over his own Exploits, did confirm the Truth of the Character that was given me of the Sincerity and Plainness of the *Vaudois*, Courteous Breeding, and a Nice Behaviour, being their least quality. Indeed future Ages will hardly believe, that a simple Minister, at the head of a handful of oppress'd and starv'd Wretches, was not only capable dutifully to oppose the forced Cruelties of their own unwilling and dear Tyrant, but to check the Power of *Lewis* the Fourteenth, to defeat great numbers of his best Troops, and to maintain his Soldiers, his Countrymen, his Friends, his Brethren, his Children, his All, in the grateful possession of their dear beloved Valleys.

He was now come to the *Hague*, as Envoy from this wonderful People, to prostrate himself at his Majesty's Royal Feet, and to implore the continuance of his powerful Protection and assistance, in order

der to make them more capable to fight for, and to defend their good and gracious Master: And 'tis said, that His Majesty, in consideration of his great Service, was pleas'd to make him a Colonel of one of the Regiments he design'd to send to his Royal Highness the Duke of *Savoy's* assistance.

And thus much of those Great and Illustrious Foreigners that were at the *Hague*. I should now say something of His Majesties Court, and those great Persons that did compose it, if I were to write to any other Nation but the *English*. They know them too well, by reason of their great Birth, Wealth and Merits, to need to be told, that they made a great Figure at the *Hague*; and to name *Norfolk, Ormond, Devonshire, Dorset, Nottingham, Monmouth, &c.* is to write an Elogy of the *English* Nobility. And I do not question but some ingenious *German* or other, will oblige his Countrey by writing about so great and splendid a Subject; and the rather, since I have seen many of them, renowned for their Parts and Learning, to be very industrious and inquisitive about the Particulars of these Noble Persons: and
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it is from one of them that I had this following List :

The Duke of *Norfolk*, Earl Marshal of *England*, Knight of the Garter.

The Duke of *Ormond*, Captain of a Troop of Guards, Knight of the Garter.

The Duke of *Schomberg*, Colonel of the First Regiment of the Guards.

The Earl of *Nottingham*, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State.

The Earl of *Devonshire*, Lord Steward of His Majesty's Household, Knight of the Garter.

The Earl of *Dorset*, Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's Household.

The Earl of *Portland*, Groom of the Stool.

The Earl of *Monmouth*, Gentleman of his Majesty's Bed-Chamber.

The Earl of *Scarborough*, Captain of a Troop of Guards.

The Earl of *Effex*.

The Earl of *Warwick*.

The Bishop of *London*.

Mr. *Wharton*, Comptroler of His Majesty's Household.

Sir *Charles Cotterel*, Master of the Ceremonies.

Mon-

Monfieur *Overkerke* , Mafter of the Horfe.

Monfieur *Zuilestein* , Mafter of the Wardrobe.

The Earl of *Silkirke*.

My Lord *John Hamilton*.

My Lord *Dumlanerigh*.

My Lord *Angus*.

Sir ——— *Staires*, &c.

Some of them are Perfons of an extraordinary Prefence ; and fome efpecially being diftinguifh'd by the Garter, they were as much revered by all Foreigners, when they paff through the Antichambers, as the greateft Princes and Electors were by the *English*.

The Right Reverend Father in God, *Henry*, Lord Bishop of *London*, was one of thofe that was moft taken notice of. His Great and Noble Extraction, his Piety, his obliging Behaviour towards all Perfons, and efpecially his untainted Zeal for their Majesties Intereft and Perfon, have rendered his Name dear to all that have the happinefs to be Proteftants, Foreigners as well as *English*: And they that have feen him in His Majesties Anticham-

chamber, in his Velvet Gown, as they could not feed enough their Eyes on so Reverend an Object, so they all agreed, that he was the truest and liveliest Representative of that great Church that has so vast a Reputation amongst, and that is certainly one of the best ordered of all Protestant Churches in the World. In his Habit, they discovered that Ceremonious Decency, that is so successfully observed, and in the mild and benign Lineaments of his Face, they read in Legible Characters that saving and peaceable Doctrine, that according to the Rules of the Gospel is so much preach't up by the Church of *England*. In fine, they all concluded him to be one of the greatest, and most deserving Sons of so blessed a Mother.

As to Matters of Ceremony that were observ'd amongst the *German* Princes, and the *English* Noblemen, there was no body put to the trouble to remove Difficulties. They freely paid and received, they received and paid their Visits with a mutual satisfaction; and these Two generous Nations striving to overcome each other in Civility, made a grateful Confusion of their diffe-

different Characters. The Right Honourable the Earl of *Devonshire* gave very frequent Visits to the Elector of *Bavaria*, and his Electoral Highness did pay him every one of them.

It seems, that as there is amongst some Nations in *Europe*, the *French* and the *Spaniards*, the *Poles* and the *Moscovites*, the *Swedes* and the *Danes*, either a Natural or Etablisht Antipathy, so there are no Nations in the World that sympathize more than the *Germans* and the *English* do. The same Freedom of Humour, the same Largeness of Soul, the same Courage, the same Complexion, the same Vertues, and (I beg leave to say) the same Vices too, as they naturally incline and prompt them to a mutual Love and Friendship; so those that are versed in History, and know that the one did descend from the other, seeing them together, will hardly distinguish the Copy from the Original.

I conclude this Paper with the Pleasures and Diversions of the *Hague*: There were every Day Two Plays acted in Two different Play-houses, one of *Dutch*, and the other of *French* Comedians. The latter
are

are in his Highness the Duke of Zell's Service, by whose Order they were come to the *Hague* to divert that Illustrious Company. The Princess of *Saxen-Eysenach*, who was come to the *Hague* with the Prince her Brother, kept a *Cercle* every Night; and she being certainly one of the most beautiful and accomplished Princesses in the World, all Persons of the highest Quality came frequently to pay her Homage, and the time was spent in pleasant Discourses. Those that had a mind to play at Cards, found that Diversion every Night at the Countess of *Soissons* her Lodgings. This Lady has been a very great Traveller; she has been in *Paris*, *Madrid*, *London*, *Brussels*, the *Hague*, and is consequently so well known, that I need not write her History. She is one of Cardinal *Mazarin's* Nieces, who married her to the Count *de Soissons*, a Prince of the Royal Blood in *France*, by whom she had Three Children, the Count *de Soissons*, the Heir of his Father's Estate, Prince *Philip*, who enjoys great Benefices in *France*, to the value of Two Hundred Thousand *French Livres* a year, and the brave Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, who has so much signaliz'd

liz'd himself in the Imperial Army, and who now is one of the Generals of the Duke of *Savoy's* Forces. The Currant Money at Play were *English* 'Guinea's, the *German* Ducats being too weak, and the *Spanish* Pistols too crooked to dare to appear within sight of them.

Hunting was also one of the Pleasures of that Illustrious Assembly. His Majesty gave that Diversion several times to the Princes ; and I remember, that when they were once at *Honslardike*, there was a Partridge shot, which being taken up by the King, made a sudden escape out of his Hands, and was lost in the Air. There were not wanting some that took it for a very bad Omen ; but other, less superstitious, and more wise, said, That if it was an Omen at all, it was certainly a very good one, and a lively Instance of the Happiness of those that fell into His Majesty's Hands.

In fine, the Sixth Day of *March* did arrive, that set a period to one of the greatest Assemblies the World ever saw. His Majesty, accompanied by their Highnesses, the Dukes of *Zell*, and *Welfembüttel*,

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parted

parted from the *Hague* that Day, about Eight a Clock in the Morning, in order to go to *Loo* ; and his Electoral Highness of *Bavaria*, who was some few Days before gone to *Amsterdam*, was to meet them on their way. The King was no sooner gone, but every body did prepare for departure. There was every moment seen some parting Coach, or other, with Six Horses, thundering through the Streets ; and the mournful *Hague* seemed to be threatned to be turned into a Desert.

It was said, His Majesty did intend to stay but Four or Five Days at *Loo*, and then strait to return into *England*. I could easily imagine, that by reason of His Majesty's great and numerous Attendance, it would be very difficult for me to get a passage in the Fleet that was to conduct him over ; and being inform'd, that the *Katherine* and *Soudike* Yacht lay at *Rotterdam*, waiting for my Lord *Dorset* and my Lord *Monmouth*, I parted from the *Hague*, March the 7th, and arrived at *Rotterdam* at Night.

March the 8th, hearing that their Lordships were arrived, I went to the Captain of the *Soudike* Yacht, belonging to my Lord *Monmouth*, desiring him to intercede with his Lordship for my passage, which, upon the first word, was freely and generously granted. My Lord being come on Board about Two a Clock in the Afternoon, we fell down the River, and passing by the *Katherine* Yacht, she saluted his Lordship with all her Guns.

March the 9th, we had the unwelcome News, that the *Gorcum*, a Dutch Man of War, that was design'd for our Convoy, could not be ready in less than Six or Seven Days time. We had a very clear Sky, the Wind was fair, and fairer, perhaps, than some of our Waiters wishes; for whatever they were, some of the Seamen of the Dutch Man of War were hang'd the next Day, for having revolted against their Captain.

Brill is not a Town that can pretend to divert impatient Travellers: Every body was thinking of means to get out of that solitary Place; and my Lord *Monmouth*,

whom all the World knows to be very Active, and of a Temper to despise all Perils, had a good mind to venture over without a Convoy : At last he found a way to oblige two *French* Privateers (the only name we ought to have been afraid of) to secure our Passage. To speak plain, there were two *French* Privateers, of twenty Guns each, riding in the *Maese*, that had been taken by the *Dutch*, and being turned into Merchant men, and man'd with *French* Protestants, they were ready to set sail for *Port-a-pert* ; by the help of a handful of Guinea's they were prevailed with to accompany us to the *English* Coast : And my Lord *Dorset* and Mr. *Wharton* being arriv'd at the *Brill* in the *Katherine*-Yacht, and approv'd of our Design, we set sail about four a Clock in the Afternoon. We were in all six Sail, two Yachts, two Privateers, and two Merchant-men, and the *Katherine* Yacht being the stout Admiral of our little Fleet, we had these following Orders sent us from on Board of her.

i. If we weigh Anchor in the Day-time, then we will hoist up our Top-sail and fire a Gun ; if in the Night, we will
hang

hang out a Light in the Shrowds and fire a Gun.

2. He that spies any Sail at Sea more than his own Company or Squadron, shall hoist and lower his Ensign as often as he shall see Ships; if in the Night, then to make false Fires until he be answer'd with the like.

3. In case of thick and foggy Weather, we will every quarter of an Hour tinkle our Bell, or fire a Gun now and then; which must be answer'd with the like, by every Vessel, with a Musquet.

4. If any lose Company, and meet again in the Day-time, he that is to the Windward shall hall up his Main-Sail, and keep it in the Brayls, until such time as he that is to Leeward shall come up with him.

5. If any make Land in the Day-time, he must hoist up his Ensign, and keep it out until he be answered.

6. If

6. If any spy Land or any Danger in the Night, he is to hang out two Lights more than he had before, and fire one Gun, and bear away, or tack from it.

7. If we make Sail in the Night, we will hang out a Light at the Ensign-Staff; if shorten Sail in the Night, then we will fire one Gun without altering our Lights.

We cou'd not get that Night out of the River, the Wind being very low, and the Tide spent, and we were forced to come to an Anchor about seven a Clock at Night, five or six Miles beyond the *Brill*, where we continued for two Days and two Nights together.

March the 12th. We weigh'd Anchors early in the Morning, making use of a fresh Gale that blew North-east, infomuch that having advanced that Day and the following Night, we came the next Morning within two Leagues of *Marget*.

March the 13th. The Sea was extremely calm, yet the *Katherine*-Yacht making use of her Oars, and we striving to follow

low her, we came at last so near the Shoar,
that my Lord *Dorset* and *Monmouth*, with
their Company, thought fit to land in their
Barges.

March the 14th. A thick Fog hindred
us to gain the River; but towards Night
we weigh'd Anchor; and having weigh'd
and cast them out again for several times,
according as the Tides serv'd, it being the on-
ly means by which we advanc'd, we ar-
riv'd *March* the 16th. at *Greenwich*, and from
thence we went to *London*.

FINIS.

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